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Senate

(Legislative day of Monday, May 15, 1995)

The Senate met at 9:45 a.m., on the expiration of the recess, and was called to order by the President pro tempore [Mr. THURMOND].

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Lloyd John Ogilvie, offered the following prayer:

Gracious God, You have shown us that You want to guide what we pray, so that You can grant us the desires of our hearts. We begin this day with King Solomon's response to Your question, "Ask! What shall I give you?" Then Solomon asked for what we desire for the work of this day. He confessed his own inadequacy and need for strength to grasp the challenges of being a leader. Then he asked for an "understanding heart." We are moved by the translation of the Hebrew words for "understanding heart," meaning a "hearing heart." Solomon wanted to hear both Your voice and the voice of the people expressing their needs, and be able to respond and speak to those needs out of the depth of wisdom that came from a heart tuned to Your spirit's supernatural power. May the response You gave to Solomon be the response You give to the women and men of this Senate who long to know and do Your will: "See, I have given You a wise and understanding heart." The heart of the matter is the heart: Your heart speaking to our hearts. Help us to listen, Lord. Amen.

Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. INHOFE). Without objection, it is so ordered.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, leadership time is reserved.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business not to extend beyond the hour of 10:30 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 5 minutes each.

The Senator from Illinois.

(The remarks of Mr. SIMON pertaining to the introduction of S. 811 are located in today's RECORD under "Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.")

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

WHERE IS BILL?

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I appreciate the opportunity to talk about an issue that greatly disturbs me at a time when we are debating in this country how we are going to get to a balanced budget and what steps we need to take and the tough decisions in setting priorities about where Federal spending should go in the next 7 years.

We had a process that went through here in the Senate and over in the House that just came from the conference committee to cut \$16 billion, \$16 billion of funding that has been appropriated by this Congress over the past year or two—a truly minor downpayment on reducing the Federal budget deficit. It is about 1 percent of what we will spend this fiscal year. We are talking about cutting 1 percent, not just in this fiscal year but this fiscal year and the next combined. About \$16 billion is what the rescission package will do.

I see the headline in the Washington Post, not the one I am particularly proud of, which is "Capitals Dismantled by Penguins," which I am happy to see that, but one which greatly disturbs me under that which is, "Clinton To Veto \$16 Billion Rescissions Package." The President—who has presented a budget that is going to add almost \$2 trillion to the national debt over the next 7 years, who refuses to come to the U.S. Congress and present a balanced budget, who says there is no problem in Medicare, who says that everything is just fine—now decides he cannot support cuts in spending. He cannot support cuts in spending: That \$16 billion is too much. We just cannot do it. We cannot tighten our belt to do that.

So he is going to go to some group. I am sure he will wrap himself—I do not know, I did not read this completely—wrap himself with either a group of seniors or a group of children because that is what you do when you do not want to change things. You hide behind children or you hide behind seniors, and you say: "We cannot hurt these vulnerable in our society." But the fact of the matter is this is a drop in the bucket. These are spending cuts, many of which he advocated, to programs many of which do not work.

Sure there are some tough cuts in here, things I am uncomfortable with. We cut, in this bill, low-income home energy assistance, not this year which I am happy to see, but next year, by \$300 million. I think that is a painful thing. But we have to share. We cannot do everything. We cannot continue to spend everything we are spending now. I think that is a good compromise.

There are other things in there that cause me some problems. They may be good programs but we have to be able to say we are going to tighten our belts

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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